

What is claimed is:

1. A method for revoking a public key certificate, comprising:
at the time of issuance, a CA requests and receives from an independent revocation
service provider entity a THV corresponding to an IRV under the sole control of said
5 revocation service provider;
embeds such THV into the public key certificate and digitally signs the public key
certificate with a private key;
an entity requests revocation from the revocation service provider; and
the revocation service provider ceases publication of valid PFI updates for the
10 public key certificate.